UNDP

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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DP/PROJECTS/2724
(CMR/77/001)
11 January 1980

ENGLISH ONLY

APPROVAL OF UNDP ASSISTANCE TO A PROJECT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON

National Project for Co-operative Education (CMR/77/001)

Report of the Administrator*

Date of present approval:	May 1979
Starting date of project activities:	July 1979 (Planned)
Planned completion date:	December 1982
To be executed by:	International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Government implementing agency:	Directorate of Co-operatives and Credit Unions (Ministry of Agriculture)
Estimated cost of assistance planned under present approval:	$1 110 100
Source of UNDP financing:	Indicative Planning Figure (IPF)

I. Background

1. Co-operative organization is regarded by the Government as an efficient means of promoting social and economic development, especially for the least privileged groups of the rural population. In February 1978, about 1.5 million people adhered to the co-operative movement which is essentially implanted in rural areas. The Government's main objective is, therefore, to increase agricultural production and productivity, and increase the revenue of the producers by reinforcing the co-operative movement. Several pilot projects in different regions of the country have already benefited from assistance from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (World Bank), the European Development Fund, and UNDP under a project giving assistance to CENADEC (Centre National de Développement des Entreprises Coopératives) (CMR/72/005). 1/

2. The main contribution of the present project will be to offer co-ordinated and ameliorated training programmes for elected representatives and personnel working in the co-operatives. This is expected to strengthen the co-operative movement by bringing together the experiences of localized co-operatives and harmonizing their functioning.

1/ DP/PROJECTS/92.

*In accordance with General Assembly resolution 2688 (XXV) and subsequent authorizations of the UNDP Governing Council, reports are issued seriatim on the approval of UNDP assistance of $250,000 or more (including, if any, assistance financed by Government or by third-party cost sharing).

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A need for a national approach to the co-operative experiment, for which special Government funds have been created, was the background for the Government's request for UNDP assistance enlarging the scope of the earlier project (CMR/72/005).

II. Objectives and activities

3. The two main objectives are to: (a) raise the awareness of public opinion to the advantages and obligations of co-operation, and provide basic co-operative education to members and users of the co-operatives, and related administrative personnel; and (b) training on the job elected representatives and organizational/administrative personnel at all levels participating in the functioning of the co-operatives. Assistance will be given at the national, regional, and local levels.

4. UNDP will provide, through the Executing Agency, for: a specialist in planning of co-operative education, an expert in administration of co-operatives, a specialist in education and audio-visual techniques, and four short-term consultants. Four United Nations volunteers will be working in the field and three fellowships will be provided. The equipment contribution consists of 12 vehicles, and some printing and audio-visual material.

5. The Government will provide qualified personnel and supporting staff, office space, supplies and equipment to the project.

IV. Financial data

6. The expenditure components of the planned assistance are as follows:

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Personnel	833 000
Training	61 000
Equipment	155 400
Miscellaneous	60 700
	1 110 100

7. The estimated total value, expressed in US dollars, of inputs provided directly by the Government to the project is $14,144,200 in kind.